

Eastern nuclear arms race to the sale of nuclear technology to terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah and Hamas.

It is widely accepted that Iran is one of the largest sponsors of terrorism; this reality has been published in the Central Intelligence Agency's World Factbook analysis of Iran. The United States, the United Nations, and the European Union have all placed economic sanctions on Iran due to Iran's sponsorship of terrorism. Hezbollah, a terrorist organization formulated and supported by Iran, is responsible for numerous terrorist attacks; the most infamous of these attacks occurred in Beirut on October 23, 1983 when Hezbollah detonated a bomb inside a U.S. Marine Barracks and killed nearly 300 servicemen.

It is imperative that we in Congress do everything we can to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. I am pleased by the recent steps taken by my Congressional colleagues to ensure that this event never takes place. Specifically, I was encouraged that the Financial Services Subcommittee on International Monetary Policy and Trade held a hearing about H.R. 1327, the Iran Sanctions Enabling Act, on March 12. Afterward, I urged Chairman BARNEY FRANK to schedule a markup of H.R. 1327 sometime before the April recess.

In closing, I urge my fellow Members to support taking the necessary steps to limit Iran's access to nuclear weapons. We must convince Iran to turn away from its current, dangerous course of action.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ADMIRAL ROBERT E. PEARY AND MATTHEW HENSON'S ARRIVAL AT THE NORTH POLE

HON. MICHAEL M. McMAHON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. McMAHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Admiral Robert E. Peary and Matthew Henson becoming the first documented explorers to reach the North Pole on April 6, 1909.

Admiral Peary and Matthew Henson through careful planning, foresight, and extreme fortitude reached the North Pole through great danger and peril to themselves. Where many men had failed and perished, these two men succeeded.

Completing their mission took over eighteen years and was delayed, hampered, and restarted many times. Through all the failures and hardships these two brave men would not allow adversity or disappointment to keep them from their goal.

Their path to the North Pole was long and arduous, but through ingenuity and with help from the Native Inuit, they managed to plant the American flag at the North Pole and survive the trip back.

Peary and Henson had made previous trips north before their ultimate success. They suffered through the arctic cold and they even needed to turn back because of the rough weather.

Despite not reaching the North Pole on these previous attempts, they had voyaged further north than any men in recorded history.

While pursuing his dream of reaching the North Pole, Peary was on leave from the

United States Navy where he was a civil engineer. Upon successful completion of his eighth and final expedition, he was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral.

Matthew Henson's contributions to the success of the exploration remained obscured and ignored for many years. His eventual induction into the Explorer's Club and acknowledgement by President Eisenhower can be recognized again by celebrating this important anniversary.

Admiral Robert Peary and Matthew Henson achieved their dreams and proved to America and the rest of the world that we can accomplish anything if we put our minds, hearts, and souls into it. Their drive and hard work still shine as an example to us all.

I am proud today to honor Admiral Robert Peary and Matthew Henson.

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize World Autism Awareness Day that is held on April 2. This special day is held to educate people about this birth disorder that is the fastest growing serious developmental disability in the U.S. The cause of autism has not been determined so there is a great need for funding to research its cause.

It is important to understand this disorder since 1 in 150 individuals are diagnosed with autism. It occurs in all racial, ethnic, and social groups and is four times more likely to strike boys than girls. Autism impairs a person's ability to communicate and relate to others. It is also associated with rigid routines and repetitive behaviors, such as obsessively arranging objects or following very specific routines. Autism usually is detected by parents who notice unusual behaviors or developmental problems in children as young as 6 months. There are several services available to help autistic people live their own independent lives and to participate and contribute to their communities. Although this is a developmental disability, people with autism still achieve and accomplish many things in life. Several autistic people attend college and hold a variety of jobs from those that require enormous amounts of concentration but limited intense interaction with others, such as computer programming or graphic design, or more repetitive jobs, such as filing.

More still needs to be done to help those that have autism and to find the cause. Through broader awareness this can be accomplished.

IN HONOR OF THE 2008
SACRAMENTO RIVER CATS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, as the Sacramento River Cats 2009 home opener approaches, I rise in tribute of their 2008 season in which they defended their title as Pacific

Coast League and the Triple-A Champions. After marching through the Pacific Coast League playoffs, the River Cats defeated the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees to win the Bricktown Showdown for the second consecutive year. As the River Cats prepare for the 2009 season, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in recognizing their remarkable 2008 accomplishments.

The River Cats were consistent all year and finished atop the Pacific Coast League Southern Division at the end of the regular season with 83 wins and only 61 losses. Their opening playoff series matched them up with the Salt Lake City Bee's. The River Cats made quick work of the Bee's, defeating them in four games by scoring a total of 39 runs.

The second round pitted the River Cats against the Texas Rangers AAA affiliate, the Oklahoma City Red Hawks. The River Cats prevailed, 3 games to 1, led by post-season MVP Chris Denorfia who went 17-35, with 12 runs scored and four homers in the post-season. By defeating the Red Hawks, the 2008 River Cats won their second straight Pacific Coast League title and their fourth in the last six years.

After claiming the Pacific Coast League title in Oklahoma City, they stayed in Oklahoma City for one more game, the Bricktown Showdown, an annual match up to declare the AAA champion. Led by six different pitchers, the River Cats stifled the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees offense en route to a 4-1 victory. The game and championship season concluded in dramatic fashion when River Cats infielder Brooks Conrad turned a line drive double-play on an outstanding diving catch.

For another year, the leadership of Art Savage, the River Cats President and CEO, the entire front office, Manager Todd Steverson, and the players on the field played a vital role in the team's success. On and off the field, the River Cats organization once again was the envy of the entire Pacific Coast League. Their success and professionalism was reciprocated by the Sacramento fans, as the River Cats led the Pacific Coast League in attendance for an astounding 9th year in a row.

Madam Speaker, as the River Cats prepare for another successful season, I am honored to pay tribute to the many hard-working men and women of the River Cats organization who brought so much joy and pride to the people of Sacramento. Their successes are truly remarkable. I ask all my colleagues to join me in celebrating the River Cats 2008 championship season.

FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION
AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1256, The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. This legislation is good for our children. It keeps tobacco out of our children's hands and restricts advertising directed at young people. This legislation also works to ensure the quality and relative safety of tobacco products, in spite of their known dangers to human health.

As a Member of this body who represents a tobacco growing area, I worked to ensure that this is balanced legislation. This is not a perfect bill, but it does represent an approach that considers the impact on those whose livelihoods depend on farming tobacco. North Carolina is the largest tobacco producing state in the Nation and my district is in the top three of overall production. We cannot simply ignore the economic impact that this crop represents to our state, and in this legislation we have not done so.

Tobacco remains a legal product, but we need to protect our Nation's children from its effects. H.R. 1256 puts in place uniform marketing standards and controls, as well as ensuring that the marketing is straightforward, and that the ingredients are properly disclosed.

While this bill will go a long way in protecting our Nation's children from tobacco, it allows our Nation's tobacco farmers to continue their way of life. As the Chairman has assured me in our colloquy on the House floor, this legislation will keep FDA off the farm.

I urge my colleague's to protect our Nation's children and support our Nation's farmers. I urge my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 1256.

IN HONOR OF HULET HORNBECK

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend to my colleagues an article in the Martinez News Gazette, my hometown paper, that beautifully captures the wonderful contributions that Hulet Hornbeck has made to the environment and open space in our portion of the East Bay of San Francisco.

The article is entitled, "Life, Love and the Great Outdoors," dated February 28–March 1, 2009.

I have known Hulet for many, many years and I have always admired him as a great leader and an avid defender of the environment. He understood many years ago just how important it is to protect open space for generations to come. He has been a leader in our community in acquiring lands for public use and creating magnificent recreational and open space opportunities for young and old alike.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Hulet for his lifelong work and I am proud to be able to rise today to publicly thank Hulet for his vision and for his tireless efforts on behalf of our community.

[From the Martinez News-Gazette, Feb. 28–March 1, 2009]

LIFE, LOVE AND THE GREAT OUTDOORS

HULET HORNBECK WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN EXPANDING EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS, THE LARGEST PARK AGENCY IN THE NATION

(By Greta Mart)

At his serene, wooded home in Muir Oaks, Hulet Hornbeck looks out at the horse pastures and wildflower-blanketed hills and savors the sound of silence.

"It's the sound of wind, of birds, or simply the trees rustling, I love it," Hornbeck said, standing on his wooden deck that hugs his

one-story house, in which comforting silence permeates. Inside a fire burns quietly in a large stone hearth; non-fiction books are stacked three feet high and four feet deep on the grand piano, oriental rugs dot the hardwood floor, and 50 years of treasures, travel mementos and memories decorate the walls.

In October he will turn 90. A lifetime of adventure, good works and good luck has kept him spry, handsome and spirited. He is one more Martinez resident—one you might see at the store or on Main Street—who holds in his heart an extraordinary character, and if you enjoy the plentiful open space and parkland around the area, you would understand how important his efforts are to you today.

On Thursday he regaled this reporter with an abridged life story.

Born in New Jersey in 1919, Hornbeck spent his first decade in Detroit, until his father abandoned the family at the start of the Great Depression. His mother moved him and his younger sister back to New Jersey to be closer to her two sisters, who provided "some degree of comfort," said Hornbeck.

There, in a suburb of Newark, he shared a bed with a cousin and his sister went to a friend's house while his mother went to work in a factory. During his teenage years, Hornbeck's mother worked her way up the socioeconomic ladder, segueing into sales and earning enough to move the family into a four-story walkup in Bloomfield.

"I liked it, because we could finally live together, and I got good exercise going up and down the stairs," said Hornbeck. "My mother was quite liberal with me, never telling me that I couldn't do something. If I said I wanted to sleep on the roof, she said okay, but tie a rope around your ankle so you don't sleepwalk off."

FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE GREAT OUTDOORS

He was befriended by a local Boy Scout troupe leader, and soon was accompanying groups on camping trips in the Ramapo Mountains. Hornbeck's mother and aunts liked to hike, and with little money and no car, hiking was a frequent form of entertaining excursions for the family. There was still a great deal of open space and nature in New Jersey in the 1930s, said Hornbeck, before the freeways and industrialization obliterated the landscape.

When his mother purchased a used car, the family took its first vacation, down to Cape May in the southern tip of New Jersey. There they stayed in a boardinghouse, and Hornbeck, at age 17, was so impressed with this new environment he asked his mother if he could stay on there for the summer. She told him to go to the hotel across the street and ask for a job.

"I asked the guy if I could wash dishes, and he made me a bus boy. At that time there weren't a lot of restaurants and such, the hotel fed three meals a day to a lot of people, it was a big dinning hall with the girl waitresses lined up against one wall and the boys on the other," Hornbeck. "There was a separate smaller dinning room, where a big family would sit for meals, curtained off from the main hall. They had their own waitresses and bus boys. My boss told me it was the Ambassador to Great Britain and his family."

The U.S. Ambassador to England at the time was Joseph Kennedy and the children Hornbeck watched meal after meal were Robert, Teddy, Rosemary and the four youngest siblings of JFK. JFK wasn't there, as he was already in his 20s at that point and was studying at Harvard.

"I remember saying to my coworkers, you watch, those kids are going to be something else," said Hornbeck.

A small inheritance from a Unitarian Universalist minister, a suitor of his mother's,

then sent Hornbeck to prep school at the Newark Academy.

"He had asked my mother to marry him, but then he died, so for \$50 a month, I got a whole different viewpoint and knowledge for two years," said Hornbeck. "It opened my eyes. After that I hitchhiked to Maine with a friend and we slept in the woods. I got cleaned up in a gas station and went to the registrar of the University of Maine and asked if I could attend. He was impressed that we had come all that way and he said, you're in, just like that."

His time in Maine was spent studying Forestry and luxuriating in the great outdoors, spending school breaks in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

WORLD WAR II

But the looming clouds of war were gathering and Hornbeck, after his sophomore year, told his friends and family there would be a war in Europe, and he was going to join the military.

"I told them I wanted to be trained by the time it started, and that I wanted to fight in the air, not ground," said Hornbeck. "I joined the Army Air Corps, and was sent to cadet school. They saw pretty quickly that I didn't have good eye/hand coordination, and that I liked mathematics, so they made me a navigator."

Pan American Airlines operated one of the few aerial navigation schools at the time, in Coral Gables, Florida, and Hornbeck studied there until November of 1941, when the Air Corps shipped half of his class to Salt Lake City. There his platoon was, introduced to the brand-new B 17 "Flying Fortress" bombers they would soon be flying in the Pacific Theater.

On December 6, Hornbeck was at Hamilton Field in San Francisco, ready to ship out to the Philippines, with a stop in Honolulu, the next day.

"I was still in my blue cadet's uniform, and right before take-off we heard, 'you can't go,' something has happened," said Hornbeck. "Well, we took off that night I steered us all the way to Hawaii using the compass and drift meter, getting a fix on the stars, and suddenly we were right off of Diamond Head [on the island of Oahu]."

Soon he was part of the famed Reconnaissance Squadrons that plied the South Pacific for the next three years, serving as the eyes of General McCarthy and Fleet Admiral Nimitz, and using his navigation skills to locate the Japanese naval fleet in the vast ocean waters.

After the war Hornbeck returned to the States to earn a law degree at Rutgers University courtesy of the G.I. Bill.

"While we were in the South Pacific, I asked a buddy, where's a good Western town to go live when this is over. He said Boise, Idaho," said Hornbeck. "Sure enough, I got myself to Boise and met Mary-Lynn." The two were married for 50 years until Mary-Lynn's death twelve years ago.

MOVING TO MARTINEZ

The pair first lived in New York City, and soon Hornbeck requested a transfer to San Francisco. They rented a house in Pleasant Hill, until Mary-Lynn found their home in Muir Oaks.

"She said, you don't even have to come look at it, it was built for you," said Hornbeck.

Mary-Lynn attended DVC, and then U.C. Berkeley, while raising their two children, Jane and Lawrence, and teaching fourth grade at John Muir Elementary for 20 years.

"It took her several years to get her degree, because she only went to classes at night or on the weekends, she never attended a full semester. When she was finally finished, she said I'm too embarrassed to go get